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of Athens

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DOWNTOWN GUIDE TO TWILIGHT



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Full events schedule: Plan your weekend

International Street Festival: Food, culture, family-fun





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The Red & Black®



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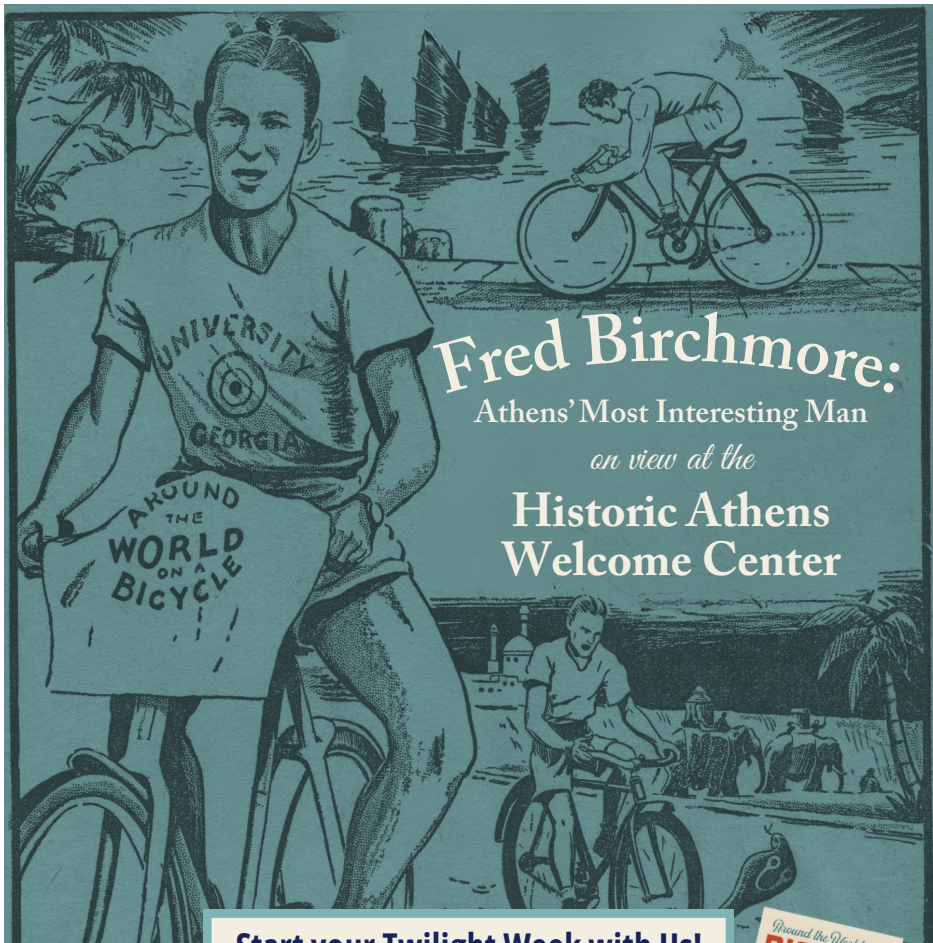
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Fred Birchmore:

Athens' Most Interesting Man

on view at the

Historic Athens Welcome Center

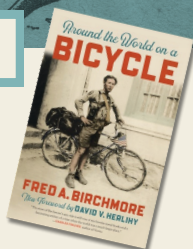
Start your Twilight Week with Us!

In 1935, at age 25, Fred Birchmore left Athens on a bicycle and rode around the world, traveling more than 40,000 miles across Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. He pedaled across continents, crossed oceans, and returned home to tell the story in his remarkable memoir, [Around the World on a Bicycle](#).

Exhibit on View

April 12 - 19

10 am - 5 pm



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Through March 31



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Welcome Center

Twilight Welcome Coffee Reception


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WHAT IS THE TWILIGHT?

Caitlyn McMullen

The Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight presented by St. Mary's Health Care System has been an annually anticipated tradition in Athens. Since its founding in 1980, the Twilight has electrified the Classic City through celebration of athleticism and community, hosting a variety of activities that bring people together from all over the world.

The Twilight's unique nighttime setting for the Pro Criterium races adds to the excitement as world-class cyclists race under the lights, navigate tight corners at high speeds, and provide a fast-paced viewing experience. The women's 40K race begins at 7 p.m. and the men's 80K at 8:30 p.m., both on Saturday, April 18.

While the Twilight is most famously known for its professional criterium races, there are other ways to participate. One such event is the Specialty Paint & Body Gambler, a bike ride open to all ability levels where participants cruise through northeast Georgia's countryside for 50 or 100 kilometers. This year's ride will start at 9:15 a.m. on Saturday, April 18.

The Specialty Paint & Body Gambler also includes a component of collecting playing cards throughout the ride, receiving one card when you start, one from each of the three checkpoints during the race and one final card at the end. Participants with the best hand of cards win a prize.

For those who might prefer running or walking, the Twilight also hosts the American Pride Bank 5K presented by Fleet Feet Athens & Oconee,

a run open to all ability-levels. With age-graded categories, the race promotes friendly competition while still encompassing a lively race atmosphere. The Triathlon, participation in both the 5K presented by the Gambler, is also available to running and biking aficionados.

This year, the 5K begins at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 18, and the top 25 men, 25 women, five masters men and five masters women qualify for the \$10,000 Mile presented by New Balance on the downtown course the same day with the women's race starting at 6:15 p.m. and the men's at 6:30 p.m.

For any amateur bikers wanting to get in on the action, there are races for juniors ages 9 to 14 at 10 a.m., 15 to 19 at 10:30 a.m., women's at 11:20 a.m., men's at noon and 12:30 p.m., masters ages 40 and up at 2:10 p.m. and masters ages 50, 60 and up at 3:05 p.m. all on Saturday, April 18. Competitors must have a 2026 USAC license. 90 spots, determined by category and race placement, qualify for the Athens Transit Amateur Finals presented by SCAD to take place prior to the Pro Criterium races in the evening.

The Twilight also offers two kids events: the Kids 1K Bike Criterium at 1:30 p.m. and 1K Fun Run at 1:45 p.m. on Saturday.

The Twilight is more than just a race. It is a weekend of community, culture and camaraderie. Keep reading to learn more about the history of the Twilight and the special contributions to this yearly event.



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PHOTO | LANEY MARTIN

GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN

Caroline Newbern

Home to a dynamic, creative spirit and harboring rich history, downtown Athens is renowned for its vibrant culture. Year-round, visitors come to experience the Classic City. One such remarkable weekend revolves around the Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight presented by St. Mary's Health Care System bike race.

This year's world-renowned criterium's fast-paced, action-packed dates are April 17-18, 2026. Here's a list of iconic stops to make in between races or any time throughout the weekend.

The Arch

The Arch is arguably the most iconic landmark at the University of Georgia and in Athens. It serves not only as a logo of the university, but a powerful symbol and assembly point among students and Athenians alike, as it has been the site of protests and vigils for years.

Chapel Bell

The Chapel Bell can be heard ringing on UGA's North Campus. Today, students ring the bell for any number of reasons—finishing the semester, graduating, touring the school, winning a national championship or just for fun.

City Hall

City Hall was constructed in 1904. Today, City Hall is the location of the mayor's office and many other government offices

and hosts Mayor and Commission meetings. City Hall's iconic copper dome and clock tower have become an important symbol of Athens' downtown.

College Square

As of Feb. 5, 2026, the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government (ACCGov), in partnership with the Athens Downtown Development Authority (ADDA), began a long-term project to redesign College Square.

In the heart of downtown, design concepts aim to create a "handshake" between UGA and downtown, fostering its centrality and encouraging community. To allow for construction, which began on Jan. 28, the space is currently closed but will reopen before the first UGA football home game on Sept. 5. Completion is expected by October 2026. Nonetheless, you can still walk around and find a bite to eat at classics like The Grill and The Place.

Georgia Theatre

The Georgia Theatre took its modern form as a concert venue in 1977. In the 1970s and 1990s, the theater saw many iconic performances such as The B-52s, The Police, R.E.M., Dave Matthews Band, Zac Brown Band and many other acts. Today, the Georgia Theatre is a staple of downtown Athens, especially during AthFest and other major cultural events.

Morton Theatre

Completed between 1909 and 1910 by Athenian Monroe Bowlers "Pink" Morton, the Morton Theatre is an important site for Athens' Black community. The Morton Building, which houses the theater, was described in 1914 by the Athens Daily Herald as the "largest building of its kind to be owned exclusively by a colored man in the world." It is now listed in the National Register of Historical Places.



PHOTO | JESSICA GRATIGNY

COMMUNITY IN THE CLASSIC CITY

The history of downtown Athens

From the creation and development of the University of Georgia to national marks on the Civil Rights Movement, music and biking worlds, the rich history of downtown Athens has come to define the city as we know it today.

Athens' history began with the charter and foundation of the University of Georgia in 1785 by Abraham Baldwin and members of the Georgia legislature. To contribute to the construction of the campus, lawmakers sold 40,000 acres of state land – rolling, riverside terrain – and received a generous donation of 633 acres from John Milledge, an early politician and a founder of the city.

The campus was officially built in 1801, and the original area is now part of what's considered North Campus, a leafy hilltop quad of neoclassical buildings perched above the Oconee River. As the school grew, so did the city; Athens became a hub of both culture and industry, with textile mills, brickworks and the railroad as primary facets of the economy.

In the 20th century, Athens was home to a thriving Black middle-class community with businesses centered around the intersection of Washington and Hull streets, the Hot Corner, and came to host numerous civil rights protests in the 1960s. This period also saw the integration of the university by Black students Charlayne Hunter-Gault and Hamilton Holmes in 1961, and UGA came to be

known as a significant part of the Civil Rights Movement.

The local music scene hit the national stage in the 1970s and 1980s with the rise of major bands like R.E.M. and the B-52's. The Georgia Theatre and the 40 Watt Club became landmark venues, and the music culture continues to shape and define the city. Visitors can trace the city's musical history by strolling the Athens Music Walk of Fame, a series of bronze sidewalk plaques installed in 2020 that honor those who have contributed to the town's powerful musical legacy.

In 1980, Gene Dixon founded the Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight presented by St. Mary's Health Care System, a "cyclers dream" according to a 1987 Red & Black article.

Starting Friday night with bike races on the stage and ending Saturday night with the rough-and-tumble criterium, attendees of all ages have the chance to participate in festivities. From day one, the Twilight has attracted cyclists from around the world to race across the 1K four-corner course on Washington, Clayton, Lumpkin and Thomas streets.

Over the years, the Twilight has been transformed by Dixon and his team into a two-day outdoor festival with the addition of the Gambler, a prize-focused bike ride established in 1989, Athens' largest 5K run with more than 1,500 participants, biking and running events for kids, and musicians on the main stage.

In 2026, UGA campus culture thrives, local music artistry continues to flourish and the Twilight celebrates its 46th year, an annual reminder of the community spirit and bringing the city together to the hub of downtown Athens.



PHOTO COURTESY | ADAM KOBLE

BORN TO RIDE

Alan Jimenez

Once a year, downtown Athens transforms, not for a concert or campus event, but for the Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight presented by St. Mary's Health Care System. Riders tear through the streets, bike wheels hum and jerseys blur. Nearly 15,000 spectators line the streets, cheering as if the race has always been here. But it hasn't.

When the Twilight debuted in 1980, it wasn't just introducing a new event, it was testing whether cycling could function as a public spectacle.

At the center of this experiment was Gene Dixon, a 23-year-old bike shop owner who wasn't trying to change Athens, but to show Americans how cycling could be enjoyed. Dixon had fallen into the sport almost accidentally, riding 30 miles a day to visit a horse he owned, before eventually turning to racing. Night racing, he believed, could give cycling the stage it needed.

The first Twilight came together with little sense of risk. The city offered no resistance to closing the streets and Danny Clark achieved first place in the men's criterium. For a sport that rarely drew crowds, it was an unmistakable signal of success.

Each year, the Twilight grew. Organizers established a long distance bike ride and Athens' largest 5K run, introduced children's races, added an art trail to engage downtown merchants and expanded amateur events onto the University of Georgia campus as the race broadened its reach. What began as a single evening criterium evolved into a weekend-long celebration.

Over time, the Twilight became more than a local institution. Dixon went on to help develop the USA CRITS, a national series, and cities like Boise, Idaho, and Winston-Salem, North Carolina, began hosting downtown race models based on the same principles: tight courses, intense racing and an emphasis on spectacle as much as sport.

More than four decades after its first lap, the Athens Twilight continues to mirror the city that embraced it. What began as a modest experiment under the lights became a national blueprint, proving that when cycling is given the right stage, entire cities will show up to watch.

After all this time, Dixon still hopes that when the final sprint is clear and the barricades come down, people walk away understanding what he saw all along: that criterium racing is one of the most extreme, electrifying sports in the world.



p.m. or the 1K Run at 1:45 p.m., both on Saturday. If that hasn't worn them out, the AKO Parade Lap can be a great way to finish out the evening.

American Pride Bank 5K
*presented by Fleet Feet Ath-
 ens & Oconee*

If biking isn't for you, join the American Pride Bank 5K. The perfect blend between casual racing and elite competition, the 5K field features all-levels of experience, from 2024 Olympians to first-time runners. If you're part of the elite top 25 among men or women, or top five male or female masters, you will have the opportunity to compete in the \$10,000 Mile presented by New Balance.

Pedal Driven Cycles BMX Show

Who knew bikes could fly? Between the International Street Festival, running and riding, head over to the 100 block of Lumpkin Street at 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday to see the Pedal Driven Cycles BMX Show, where athletes flip, trick and do the impossible.

Twilight VIP

If you're looking for a truly elite viewing experience, there's only one way to do that: as a Twilight VIP! On Friday, April 17, and Saturday, April 18, the VIP tent across from the Main Stage is the place to be. On Friday, enjoy a wine tasting and light bites as you listen to live music from Fawney Rig, La Suegra and Bichos Vivos. Come back on Saturday for the best seat in the house at the Maepole VIP and enjoy food cooked by Athens' beloved restaurant as well as drinks from Terrapin, Miller Lite and White Claw right on the finish line.

FEATURED EVENTS

Jake Westing

In its historic 46-year legacy, the Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight has grown to be far more than a bike race. There are multiple vendors, sponsors and events that make the weekend a can-miss event. This year, the Twilight also partners with the International Street Festival presented by the University of Georgia's Center for Global and Cultural Student Engagement to platform the global nature of biking.

Women's Pro Twilight Criterium

presented by St. Mary's Health Care System

Men's Pro Twilight Criterium *presented by Athens Orthopedic Clinic*

The very core of the Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight, with two spectacular bike races looping through downtown, a 40K for the women and a 80K for men.

International Street Festival

Located on Clayton Street between Lumpkin and Jackson, you can find a bustling fair of international performers, student organizations and restaurants in partnership with the festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday,

April 18.

All Things Athens Music

presented by Athens Transit & Magic 102.1 FM

Enjoy festive tunes Friday night at All Things Athens Music, with bands such as Fawney Rig, La Suegra and Bichos Vivos.

Specialty Paint & Body Gambler

A ride made for those who are in it for the long-haul. With group ride options of 50K and 100K, participants have the chance to ride through the Athens area countryside. It's not a race; if participants play their cards right, they have a chance to win a prize.

Kid-Friendly Opportunities

If the kids want to get involved, then bring them to the free Twilight Kids 1K Bike Crit at 1:30



PHOTO COURTESY | SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

THE ATHENS ORTHOPEDIC CLINIC TWILIGHT SPOTLIGHTS SCAD'S NEXT-GEN ELECTRIC VEHICLES PROGRAM

Alan Jimenez

As part of this year's Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight Criterium, the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) will bring innovation to the streets with a special showcase from its next-gen electric vehicles program.

Over the Twilight weekend, attendees can see the future of transportation up close as a SCAD-designed electric vehicle is displayed from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday and all day Saturday on Washington Street.

At the heart of SCAD's showcase is a spotlight on the TYR electric vehicle, a student-created off-road EV that blends sustainability, versatility, cutting-edge design and partnership across SCAD's School of Design.

Built under the faculty mentorship of associate chair of design Owen Foster and industrial design professor Rafael Corazza Ronchetti, the TYR

project pushes past conventional automotive design to meet Gen Z's eco-minded and adventure-oriented lifestyle.

Visitors are encouraged to stop by at any point throughout the evening to explore the vehicle, learn more about the program and see how design thinking translates into functional solutions.

Whether you're a car enthusiast, a design lover or simply strolling through the Twilight, the SCAD electric vehicle display provides a distinct chance to engage with creative work being developed right here in Georgia.

The TYR car will remain on-site for the full duration of the event, turning it into an easy and inspiring stop as you enjoy the Twilight's art, music and street-level energy. Don't fail to seize the opportunity to see how SCAD students are leading the future, one design at a time.



PHOTO COURTESY | BALINT TORJAK

UP FOR A GAMBLE?

Emma Lovell

Join hundreds of cyclists for the Specialty Paint & Body Gambler on Saturday, April 18, at 9:15 a.m. Enjoy a breezy 50K ride through northeast Georgia's rolling countryside or go all in for a 100K grand tour of Clarke, Madison and Oglethorpe Counties.

Riders receive one playing card at the start, three more at different checkpoints and the final card at the end of the ride. Participants with the best hands win prizes! After your ride, enjoy beverages and a post-ride meal.

Want to register? Preregister online at bikereg.com/athenstwilight, sign up on Friday, April 17, on-site for \$75 or Saturday, April 18, day-of for \$80.

Up the ante and contend the "On the Rivet" 100K Gambler led by cycling legend George Hincapie, a four-time Olympian and 17-time Tour de France competitor. As sheriff deputies escort your ride in a rolling enclosure, you'll bypass stop signs, traffic lights and cars as you cycle through the gentle slopes at an average speed of 20-22 mph.

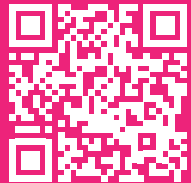
"On the Rivet" riders will have one "nature break" approximately halfway for refueling and refilling bottles and will receive a complimentary invitation for light bites, drinks and more at Rivet House.

Packages start at \$500 and registration is open until Wednesday, April 15, at 5:00 p.m. by visiting bikereg.com/athenstwilight.

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COFFEE AND TEA

Stay refreshed and hydrated! Here are some nonalcoholic recommendations around town.

1000 Faces Coffee

Inspired by its founder's decades of international travel, this fair-trade roasting company prioritizes relationships with countries of origin and sustainable coffee consumption. The cafe on North Thomas Street has become an Athens staple, offering artisanal brews and baked goods.

Bubble Cafe

String lights and floral garlands welcome you into this cozy cafe offering dozens of Taiwanese tea drinks and a full lunch and dinner menu. People flock to Bubble Cafe for the food and drinks alike, but it's also a comfortable spot to work or study just steps from North Campus.

Condor Chocolates

The predecessor and sister business of Choco Coffee, Condor is known for its Ecuadorian chocolates and truffles. They also serve coffee, milkshakes, gelato and baked goods at their cafes in Five Points and downtown.

Hendershot's

This Prince Avenue staple is a coffee shop by day, bar by night and a popular spot for live music, comedy and open mics. The menu features coffee roasted in-house, specialty lattes and dozens of tea flavors.

Jittery Joe's

The Classic City's best known coffee brand has expanded to over a dozen locations since 1994. Jittery Joe's serves a full range of coffee, chai, matcha and baked goods.

Sips Espresso Café

Voted best coffee shop in Athens by our readers in 2024, Sips offers seasonal specialty drinks, latte art and a selection of baked goods. Order from their take-out window or enjoy your drink on their Normaltown patio.

Sunroof Coffee Company

Sunroof's co-founders dreamed of opening their own business as roommates at UGA, and now they serve coffee, chai and more out of their walk-up window in the Mill District.

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BAR CRAWL

Find places to drink, from dive bars to luxe lounges

WRISTBANDS

Throughout the weekend of the Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight, wristbands will be available for purchase at beer tents, merch tents and from participating downtown bars and restaurants indicated by posters in their windows. Fun fact: Miller Lite, Terrapin and White Claw are partners of the Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight so keep your eyes peeled!

WHERE TO WATCH A GAME

If you want to take a break from the cycling action and partake in another sport, Athens' bars offer a variety of viewing options.

Cutters Pub

This downtown bar has TVs, skee-ball, pool, a photo booth and a huge selection of craft beer and bourbon. If the main floor is crowded, head upstairs to the tiki bar. On Thursdays, Cutters dollar beer night is also as fun as it is affordable.

Paloma Park

Happy hour deals and daily menu discounts make this stylish Tex-Mex restaurant and tequila bar on Washington Street a popular spot for date nights and group outings, while its outdoor beer garden is a great place for live music and watch parties.

The Royal Peasant

Watch the week's top Premier League matches while dining on bangers and mash or "proper plates" like fish and chips at this Five Points British pub with an extensive beer list.

WHERE TO GO ON A NIGHT OUT

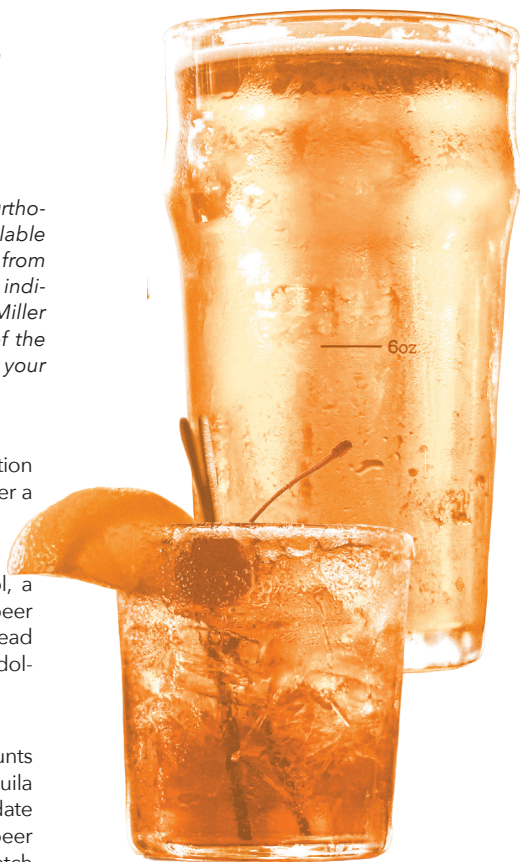
If you're out late watching the races and want to keep the night going, here is a list of bars to fit your fancy.

Blue Sky Bar

With a (sort of) secret entrance, this bar has a speakeasy vibe and boasts more than 100 beers and a substantial whiskey list. If you bring a vinyl on Wednesday nights, they'll play it for you and take a dollar off your drink.

Magnolias

This classic college-town bar at the edge of campus is known for happy hour specials, Long Island iced tea and shots.



Tropical Bar

Patrons can enjoy drinks, dancing, karaoke and more at this downtown Latin bar. Stay posted for regular events with drink specials and DJs.

LOCAL FAVORITES

Here are some don't miss bars to visit during your time in the Classic City.

Little Kings Shuffle Club

Catering to the local crowd, this bar has plenty of craft beers and a spacious outdoor area. Keep an eye out for special events like craft markets and dance parties.

Manhattan Cafe

One of Athens' best-kept secrets, this hidden gem is a local favorite thanks to the chill atmosphere and cocktails served with zero pretentiousness. Plus: There's always free popcorn.

Normal Bar

A mellow bar catering to Normaltown locals, this spot has an enormous main room and a small outdoor area perfect for date night.



14:01

IT'S
MILE
TIME

GRAHAM BLANKS TO RACE IN 5K

Jake Westing

Rather run or walk than bike? Kick off Saturday, April 18, at 8 a.m. with a 5K race open to participants of all levels. The American Pride Bank 5K presented by Fleet Feet Athens & Oconee is an opportunity to personally trek some of the roads the professional bikers will tear through later that same night.

The course winds through scenic downtown Athens, starting on East Washington Street, going all the way up Prince Avenue, where runners take a right on Nacoochee, Boulevard and Grady, run back down Prince, and eventually make their way to West Clayton, where they complete their sprint to the finish.

All participants earn an after-run breakfast and drink ticket to recharge, a well-deserved reward after a 5K.

With age-rated awards held at 9 a.m., there's something for everyone to run for. Here, top performers that qualify for the \$10,000 Mile presented by New Balance that evening will also be announced.

One familiar face expected at the top of the podium is Graham Blanks. Sponsored by New Balance, Blanks is an Athens native who had a prolific high

school career, earning Georgia Gatorade Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, multiple state championships and course records.

He committed to Harvard University, where he had an enormously successful college career. During his time in Boston, Massachusetts, he won back-to-back NCAA national championships, the thirteenth male athlete ever to do this.

In 2024, he competed for Team USA in the Olympics, placing ninth in the 5,000 meter race. Come December, Blanks ran a 12:59.89 in the 5,000 meters, which is the second fastest time in NCAA history. Shortly after, he forfeited his remaining NCAA eligibility and signed a professional contract with New Balance.

Although most long-distance runners choose to live at elevation, Blanks has chosen the unorthodox route, living in the humid, low-elevation climate in the south in Athens. As for his reasoning, it was simple.

"I think I want part of my legacy, at the very least, to be like the guy who trained in Athens and became one of the best distance runners in the world," Blanks said to The Red & Black.

ATHENS ORTHOPEDIC CLINIC

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DOWNTOWN EATS

Caitlyn McMullen

A special aspect of the Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight is its location in the heart of downtown. This area is a hub of culture, historical significance and delicious cuisine. If you consider yourself a foodie, the Twilight is a great weekend to eat your way around Athens.

Mellow Mushroom

Located on East Clayton Street, Mellow powers the Twilight Volunteers and is a favorite of the locals. With delicious dough, premium ingredients, and unique flavors, Mellow's standard is Delivering A Higher Order of Pizza™. Making their pizza tasty and delicious, just imagine what they can do with munchies, greens, calzones, and burgers! And many of their pizzas can be made gluten-free or vegan, too!

Last Resort Grill

Last Resort Grill was founded in 1966 as a music venue that hosted vocal powerhouses including Jimmy Buffet and Steve Goodman before it became a staple Athens restaurant. Their menu features signature southern food like fried green tomatoes, praline chicken, crab cakes and slices of cheesecake for dessert. Last Resort is the perfect place to sit down and enjoy a classic meal before heading over to Twilight.

Taqueria Tsunami

According to their website, Taqueria Tsunami combines flavors from "the Far East and South of the Border" to curate a blend of tacos, bowls, salads and appetizers in the heart of downtown Athens. Whether you are craving a savory or sweet taco, Taqueria Tsunami provides 14 regular and two signature tacos, salads, bowls, desserts, margaritas and more.

South Kitchen + Bar

Located on East Washington Street, South Kitchen + Bar resides in the old Georgian Hotel, originally built in 1908. The ambience and historical significance of the location makes this a special place to dine. The menu includes modern southern food items like a Nashville hot chicken sandwich and fried green tomato sandwich for lunch,

and a bbq blue plate and bourbon glazed salmon for dinner.

Clocked!

Craving a good burger and fries? This American diner serves all the classic meals while providing a retro experience in the classic city. The dining experience will make you feel like a character in a 60s movie, so bring your loved ones and share a delicious milkshake and some house-battered onion rings before popping over to watch the Twilight cycling experience.

Shokitini

Sushi with a side of karaoke? Shokitini's exciting atmosphere blends Japanese cuisine with creativity, crafted cocktails and singing with friends and family. Come prepared to eat from tens of various sushi roll options including vegetarian, house and baked rolls. Kickstart the electrifying energy of the Twilight while expressing your love for Athens through song, dance and sushi.

Trapeze Pub

Trapeze Pub is an Athens staple solidified by its perfected craft and imported beer selection as well as their flavorful pub menu items. The food ranges from delectable meat sandwiches like the pastrami reuben, to soups and salads, to shareable appetizers such as boiled peanuts and Belgian fries (make sure to get a side of their signature raspberry ketchup).

"Get the Best Seat in the House with local eats"

Exciting news! Maepole is the official catering VIP for the Twilight! Purchase the VIP package to secure the best seat in the house while enjoying the healthy comfort food provided by Maepole from 3 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 18.



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PAST THE PEDALS

The Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight beyond biking

McKenna Edwards

Amidst the chaos of the races taking place at Twilight, there are other ways to keep yourself and your young ones entertained throughout the event.

If you're not one for biking or participating in the American Pride Bank 5K, on Friday, April 17, there will be a handful of musical artists for you to tune into. All Things Athens Music will begin at 5 p.m. and conclude with the night at 10 p.m.

A variation of different artists, with individual sounds and backgrounds will take the main stage over the course of the evening.

Fawney Rig, an Irish folk-rock project, is set to open the evening performances with a set of Irish tunes featuring plenty of Celtic classics, foot-stomping jigs, sweet ballads and even a few rockers. Attendees can expect tunes by The Clancy Brothers, The Pogues, The Dubliners and more. Fawney Rig will take the stage at 5 p.m.

La Suegra, a Latino reggae-punk band based out of Atlanta, will bring an upbeat, ska vibe to their set. With their horn section, it's no surprise they will be sure to catch your ears' attention and have you banging your head along to their songs. La Suegra will begin performing at 6:30 p.m.

Bichos Vivos, an Athens based musical ensemble, brings a new, unique sonic and cultural tradition to the elements of Forró, the most popular genre of music and dance in Brazil's northeast. Expect

to hear a combination of three instruments, accordion, zabumba and a metal triangle, as they perform. Bichos Vivos set will begin at 8 p.m.

Kenya Safari Acrobats will perform in between sets in front of the stage. As you wait for the next set, enjoy non-stop action, acrobatics, storytelling and music.

A DJ will also be spinning some tunes in between sets as Kenya Safari Acrobats performs, can you name the tunes playing?

This year, the Athens Twilight is partnering with the International Street Festival. On Saturday, April 18, visitors are able to experience the best of both worlds.

If you or anyone you know plan on bringing a young one, bounce houses will be set up Friday and Saturday. Friday, bounce house hours are 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the 100 block of East Washington Street. Saturday, hours will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the 100 block of West Washington Street.

Looking for a slice of adrenaline? Saturday, on the 100 Block of Lumpkin Street, there will be Pedal Driven Cycles BMX Shows at 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.

The Athens Twilight is sure to check all boxes for athletes, music lovers and every kid (including at heart).

INTERNATIONAL STREET FESTIVAL

Alan Jimenez

The Athens Orthopedic Clinic Twilight is excited to partner with the International Street Festival presented by UGA's Center for Global and Cultural Student Engagement for an evening filled with culture, community and celebration! Here is a non all-encompassing list of participating organizations:

GSE - Advised Organizations | Arab Cultural Association | **African Graduate Students' Forum** | Bangladeshi Students Association (BASA) | **Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA)** | Filipino Student Association | **Global Student Engagement (Host Table)** | International Student Advisory Board | **Indian Student Association** | Korean Undergraduate Student Association (KUSA) | **Nepalese Student Association (NSA@UGA)** | Pacific Unity Association | **Pakistani Student Association** | Persian Student Union | **Vietnamese Student Association (VSA)** | Non-GSE Advised Organizations | **Asian American Student Association (AASA)** | Brazilian Student Association | **Dawgs for Israel (DFI)** | Russian Language Club | **Ukraine**

FOOD TASTING

Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe

Serving the Athens area since 2014, Taziki's is inspired by a range of Mediterranean flavors, featuring grilled meats, kabobs, salads and Greek-inspired dips.

BobaMania

BobaMania offers handcrafted bubble teas, including a variety of fruit and milk teas, as well as signature drinks with boba and specialty add-ins.

Maripe's Kitchen

Maripe's Kitchen serves authentic, homemade African and Caribbean dishes crafted with fresh ingredients and traditional recipes.

The Japan-American Society of Georgia (JASG)

The Japan-American Society of Georgia fosters cultural exchange between Japan and the U.S., and at this year's festival, they're serving Japanese dishes that celebrate traditional flavors and heritage.

SATURDAY PERFORMANCES

Amara

Amara is UGA's competitive classical Indian dance team, performing at a wide range of events from weddings and parties to festivals and showcases.

Mariachi Bajo El Arco

UGA's first mariachi band, Mariachi Bajo El Arco, showcases the vibrance of Mexican culture through traditional music across campus and the Athens community.

CaribSA

The Caribbean Student Association (CaribSA) highlights Caribbean culture and history, offering community and vibrant cultural experiences at UGA.

DN_LO

DN_LO, a Chinese international student group, performs high-energy C-Pop and K-Pop dance and vocal routines.

Filipino Student Association

The Filipino Student Association presents Pukol, a traditional Bicol dance inspired by the motion of pounding rice, featuring dynamic movements and lively music to celebrate Filipino culture.

Karthik's Rock Guitar Medley

Karthik Rajkumar, 2025 UGA Dawgs Got Talent winner, energizes with a medley of rock guitar hits from artists such as Zach Bryan, The Weeknd, and Guns N' Roses.

Tropical Breeze Steel Band

Tropical Breeze Steel Band brings the vibrant sounds of the Caribbean to life with classic calypso and soca, keeping you dancing all night long.

One Ton Tomato

One Ton Tomato, an Athens-based Latin jazz band, inspires with rhythms drawn from legends like Tito Puente and Poncho Sanchez, contributing to the local scene.

Bangladeshi Students Association (BASA)

Fostering a strong, supportive community for Bangladeshi students at UGA while celebrating culture through events and shared experiences, BASA will present a traditional dance performance highlighting rhythm and rich cultural heritage.



STAYING SAFE

How to navigate possible emergencies

Someone gets overheated

If someone you know is suffering from heat exhaustion, move them to a cool or air-conditioned place and give them water or a sports drink. Seek medical attention if a person can't be cooled down after 30 minutes. Heatstroke is more serious. If someone is overheated and experiences confusion or nausea, seek immediate medical attention by calling 911. Get them out of the heat and try to cool them down however you can. To prevent this, remember to hydrate, wear breathable fabrics and stay in the shade as much as you can.

Someone forgot to pay for parking

If you happen to come back from the races and find that your car has been towed, the Athens-Clarke County Police Department can help you locate your vehicle. To avoid this, research nearby parking lots beforehand and take note of all permit warning signs in the area.

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS FOR NAVIGATING WORST-CASE SCENARIOS.

Restrooms

Free, portable restrooms are located throughout each course turn, Kids Zone and food court area.

Emergency Personnel

First aid, medical and an EMT Ambulance can be found in the Kids Zone, main food court area and near the Classic Center.

For emergencies: 911

Athens-Clarke County Police (Non-Emergency): (706) 613-3345

UGA Police (Non-Emergency): (706) 542-5813

UGA Campus Safety Ambassadors:
(706) 542-2200

UGA's Sexual and Relationship Violence Prevention: (706) 542-7233

The Cottage: Sexual Assault Center:
(877) 363-1912

DRINK RESPONSIBLY

How Athens' open-container laws affect the Twilight weekend

Athens-Clarke County open-container laws have provisions that allow for drinking on property owned by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents (i.e. campus) and during certain special events (i.e. Twilight). These tips can help you drink responsibly (and legally).
Festival zone wristbands

Open container consumption is permitted within festival zones. Entrance into festival zones requires a wristband, which can be purchased at participating bars, merchandise and beer tents day-of. Wristbands can also be bought in advance and picked up at the 100 block of College Avenue. Wristband holders will need to present a valid 21+ I.D. with every alcoholic beverage purchased within the festival zone.

Glass containers

You can't carry glass containers of any kind in any public area. Cans are easier to recycle anyway!

Streets

You can't carry open containers of alcoholic beverages on city streets – including streets that cut through campus. In other words, while you can wander North Campus with a beer in hand, you can't carry that beer down Lumpkin Street.

Sidewalks

You can only have open containers downtown on designated sidewalk areas outside of certain bars and restaurants.



NAVIGATING ATHENS

Getting around Athens during the Twilight

Athens-Clarke County Transit

Athens Transit is a fare-free city bus with 18 different weekday routes and nine different evening and weekend routes. Hours of operation end at 9:45 p.m. during the week and at 6:45 p.m. over the weekend. All buses have been made accessible to hold up to two wheelchairs. Each bus can carry up to three bikes and there are bike lockers at the Multimodal Transportation Center. Download the myStop app for route tracking and additional information.

Downtown Parking

As you plan your visit, please keep in mind street closures will be in place. The annual G-Day game will also be happening so parking could be limited as more visitors are in town for the spring scrimmage game. We recommend biking or taking public transportation, as parking will be limited, but some parking decks and street parking will be available. Metered street parking is \$3 an hour with a two-hour maximum, Monday to Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. All meters take credit cards. After 6 p.m., you may purchase additional time. After 10 p.m., the meters are not monitored.

You can find city-operated decks on College Avenue, a few blocks from the Arch, and on West Washington Street, closer to restaurants and music venues. Parking in these decks is typically free for the first hour and \$2 per additional hour. The downtown area has several spots and lots that can be reserved and paid for via the ParkMobile app, which is also utilized by several UGA decks. According to the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government, there are ADA-compliant spaces on both the streets and in the decks.

Campus Transit

The University of Georgia bus system can save you the time and expense of looking for parking and it travels far beyond campus. All UGA buses are accessible by ramp or lift. Bus service will be available throughout the weekend. Download the UGA mobile app for route information.

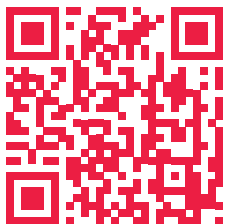
Pedestrian Routes

With sidewalks and crosswalks, downtown Athens is walkable.

The Red & Black DAILY HEADLINES

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THE TWILIGHT RACE AND EVENT SCHEDULE

Nyla Warburton

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Twilight Global Challenge at Live Wire Athens
7 p.m. Pro Women **8 p.m.** Pro Men

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

ENTERTAINMENT AND FOOD

Noon to 10:30 p.m. Twilight Food Court, Merch and Beer (200 block of College Avenue)
5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Kids Bouncy Houses (100 block of East Washington)
5 p.m. to 10 p.m. All Things Athens Music p/b Athens Transit and Magic 102.1 FM (Main Stage)
5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. All Things Athens VIP/Business After Hours (200 block of East Washington Street)
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Fawney Rig
6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Kenya Safari Acrobats
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. La Suegra
7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Kenya Safari Acrobats
8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Bichos Vivos
9:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. DJ Quincy

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

RACE EVENTS

8 a.m. American Pride Bank 5K p/b Fleet Feet Athens & Oconee (Start: Main Stage | Finish: White Claw Stage)
9 a.m. 5K Awards (White Claw Stage)
9:15 a.m. Specialty Paint and Body Gambler (Start: Main Stage | Finish: Classic Center Horseshoe)
10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Athens Transit Amateur Racing p/b SCAD (Start/Finish: White Claw Stage)
10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Juniors 9-14
10:40 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. Juniors 15-18
11:20 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. Women 3/4/5
Noon to 12:30 p.m. Men Cat 4/5
12:40 p.m. to 1:25 p.m. Men Cat 2/3
2:10 p.m. to 2:55 p.m. Masters 45+ (1/2/3/4)
3:05 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. Masters 55+/65+ (1/2/3/4)
5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.: Amateur Finals (Main Twilight Course)
12:30 p.m. to 1:55 p.m. Kids Races (300 block of Lumpkin Street)
1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pedal Driven Cycles BMX Show (100 block of Lumpkin Street)
3 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Maepole Twilight VIP (200 block of East Washington Street)
5:50 p.m. to 6:10 p.m. Parade Laps (Main Twilight Course)
5:50 p.m. Twilight Kids Parade (Staging begins 5:30 p.m. in the 300 block of Lumpkin Street)
6:05 p.m. AKO Signs Parade Lap
6:15 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. \$10,000 Mile Run p/b New Balance (Main Twilight Course (Start: Clayton Street, in front of Cutters | Finish: Main Stage)
6:15 p.m. to 6:25 p.m. Women's Mile Run
6:30 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. Men's Mile Run
7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Women's Pro Twilight Criterium p/b St. Mary's Health Care System (Main Twilight Course (S/F at Main Stage)
8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Men's Pro Twilight Criterium p/b Athens Orthopedic Clinic (Main Twilight Course (S/F at Main Stage)

ENTERTAINMENT AND FOOD

9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Twilight Food Court (200 block of College Avenue)
11 a.m. to 4 p.m. International Street Festival (Clayton Street (between Lumpkin Street and Jackson Street)

EXPO AND REGISTRATION

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Twilight Expo and Registration (300 block of East Washington Street)
5:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. Wahoo Races p/b TrainingPeaks (White Claw Stage)
6 p.m. Joy Ride with BikeAthens (200 block of East Washington Street)

EXPO AND REGISTRATION

6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Registration (300 block of East Washington Street)
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Twilight Expo (300 block of East Washington Street)
11 a.m. to 4: p.m. Kids Zone p/b Barron's Rental Center, Registration, and Bouncy Houses (300 block of Lumpkin Street)

12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. Toddler Time Trial
1:30 p.m. to 1:40 p.m. 1K Bike Crit
1:45 p.m. to 1:55 p.m. 1K Run
1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Show 1
2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Show 2
4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Show 3



For more details, scan here!

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**APRIL
17-18**

